PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

11-12

ANNUAL REPORT

MULTITYPE LIBRARY BOARD

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This annual report is also available in electronic format from the Ministry's website at **www.education.gov.sk.ca/Publications**

Letters of Transmittal

Her Honour the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012.

R. Marchuk.

Russ Marchuk
Minister of Education

The Honourable Russ Marchuk
Minister of Education

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012.

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Susan Baer

Susan Baer
Chair, Multitype Library Board

Who We Are

The purpose of the Multitype Library Board is to optimize the capacity and outcomes of Saskatchewan libraries by enabling all types of libraries and information providers to work co-operatively in a multitype library system. The Multitype Library Board has updated its goals and objectives to further develop the multitype library system in its new strategic plan for the next three years. Its vision and mission statements have been changed under the new context to address new challenges and opportunities and to support 21st century learning and to align with the Ministry of Education's Strategic Priorities.

Vision

Successful communities through library co-operation

Mission

Through co-operation, libraries contribute to the social and economic development of citizens of Saskatchewan

Partners

The partners in the multitype library system include:

- the public, school, post-secondary education and special library sectors;
- the Provincial Library, which has traditionally played a coordinating role in the Saskatchewan library community; and
- other information providers, such as archives, business resource centres and Aboriginal libraries.

Each partner has a unique role, mandate and client group that it serves. Partners vary in size, structure, governance, facilities, resources, functions and related government ministry. Each one must understand the nature of the differences as well as the similarities to co-operate more effectively.

Public Libraries

The role and mandate of public libraries are to provide people of all ages with equitable access to informational, cultural, recreational and educational materials and services. The public library system provides library service from over 300 branch libraries in communities across Saskatchewan through seven regional library systems, a federated library system in the north and two municipal libraries in the cities of Regina and Saskatoon.

School Libraries

The role of school libraries is to support the learning program of the school and to meet the individual needs and interests of staff and students. School libraries play an integral role in supporting curricula by providing appropriate resources and in actively involving students in the location, evaluation and use of information, ideas and resources. The range of resources in a school library includes print, non-print, electronic and human resources.

Post-secondary Education Libraries

The role and mandate of post-secondary education libraries is to provide information and services which support the information needs of students, faculty, researchers and staff of educational institutions and to educate clients in the use of information resources.

Special Libraries

The role and mandate of special libraries is to provide specialized information services for staff, students, or members of a parent organization. Special libraries in Saskatchewan include government, corporate and private libraries, with specialized collections and subject-knowledgeable staff.

While special libraries tend to be concentrated in the cities of Saskatoon and Regina, they are also found in smaller communities such as Humboldt, North Battleford and Swift Current.

Provincial Library

The Public Libraries Act, 1996 mandates the Provincial Library to serve as a coordinating agency for the provincial public library system and to administer public library grants. The Libraries Co-operation Act mandates the Provincial Library to act as secretariat to the

Multitype Library Board and to support the multitype library system through such activities as research, planning, services support and the establishment of policies and procedures.

Information Providers

Other information providers have a variety of roles, mandates and client groups depending on their organizations. Archivists, for example, bring a wide range of expertise and experiences to a partnership with libraries, which makes their contributions particularly valuable, especially in the area of information technology utilization.

Mandate and Role

The Multitype Library Board was established by *The Libraries Co-operation Act* in 1996. Its mandate is to facilitate the co-operative development of the multitype library system in Saskatchewan by providing a forum for appointed representatives of library sectors and information providers in Saskatchewan to meet and discuss ways in which they can co-operate to enhance their capacity and services.

A multitype library system is a network of working relationships, between any inter-sectoral combination of autonomous libraries and information providers, established to share services and resources for mutual benefit.

In a multitype library system, the jurisdictional boundaries and separate administrative structures of libraries and information providers remain intact, but co-operative initiatives and working relationships enable them to collectively acquire information products and develop services that they could not achieve independently.

The role of the Multitype Library Board is to identify library needs that overlap and allow these areas of mutual need to be the basis for the development of co-operative policies and programs to better serve Saskatchewan residents.

Programs

The Multitype Library Board operates programs and initiatives that enable collaboration among multitype partners in areas of mutual interest. Programs and initiatives are operationalized via the Board's secretariat, the Provincial Library. The Multitype Database Licensing Program is the primary and longest running program of the Board. Additional initiatives are developed as emerging needs and issues are identified by partners. In December 2006, the Board initiated the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance to guide multitype partners in their digitization efforts and to explore the potential of province-wide digitization initiatives.

Structure

The Minister Responsible for Libraries appoints members of the Multitype Library Board.

The following representation must be appointed:

- a library director from a public library or public library system;
- a library director from a school library or school library system;
- a library director from a post-secondary library or post-secondary library system;
- a library director from a special library or special library system;
- the Provincial Librarian;
- a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association;
- a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association;
- a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Association;
- one other person employed by a post-secondary library in any capacity; and

- one other person employed by a special library in any capacity.

The minister may appoint any of the following representatives:

- one person who is, or who is employed by, an information provider;
- one person appointed after consultation with the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association;
- one person appointed after consultation with the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities; and
- one or two other persons in consultation with the library community.

The role of board members is to consult with their sector to ensure broad understanding of all sectors' needs and to enable full participation of all sectors in multitype initiatives.

As entrenched in *The Libraries Co-operation Act*, the Board uses consensus decision making. Consensus decision making recognizes the autonomy and individual responsibility of autonomous libraries and library systems represented on the Board.

The Multitype Library Board advises and provides recommendations to the minister responsible for libraries with respect to the development of the multitype library system.

The Board may also make recommendations to libraries and library systems concerning the multitype library system development.

The Provincial Library and Literacy Office, a branch of the Ministry of Education, provides secretariat support to the Board.

Board Members

Public Library Sector

John Murray, Director, Wapiti Regional Library, Prince Albert; serving the position of a library director from a public library or public library system.

Karen Basky, Former President, Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association, Moose Jaw; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association.

School Library Sector

Joanne Beltramini (until February, 2012), Coordinator, Information and Library Services, Regina Catholic Schools, Regina; serving in the position of a library director from a school library or school library system.

Carlene Walter (beginning February, 2012), Instructional Consultant, Saskatoon Public Schools, Saskatoon; serving in the position of a library director from a school library or school library system.

Bryan Wilson (until February, 2012), School Board Trustee, South East Cornerstone School Board, Weyburn; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association.

Bert Yakichuk (beginning February, 2012), School Board Trustee, Regina Catholic School Board, Regina; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association.

Post-Secondary Education Library Sector

Brad Doerksen, Library Director, Archibald Library, Briercrest College and Seminary, Caronport; serving in the position of library director from a post-secondary library or post-secondary library system.

Charlene Sorensen (until February, 2012), Serials Coordinator, University of Saskatchewan Library, Saskatoon; serving in the position of one other person employed by a post-secondary library in any capacity.

Regan Gunningham (beginning February, 2012), Program Head, SIAST Libraries and Testing Services Woodland Campus, Prince Albert; serving in the position of one other person employed by a post-secondary library in any capacity.

Special Library Sector

Pat Kolesar, Assistant Legislative Librarian, Saskatchewan Legislative Library, Regina; serving in the position of one other person employed by a special library in any capacity.

Susan Baer, Director of Libraries and Archives, Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, Regina; serving in the position a library director from a special library or special library system.

Information Providers

Wendy Sinclair (until February, 2012), Branch Head, Albert Library, Regina Public Library, Regina; representing Aboriginal Libraries.

Edna Mirasty (beginning February, 2012), Librarian, Senator Myles Venne School Public Library, Air Ronge; representing Aboriginal Libraries.

Jeff O'Brien (until February, 2012), City Archivist, City of Saskatoon Archives, Saskatoon; representing the archives community.

Crista Bradley (beginning February, 2012), Program and Information Management Archivist, Dr. John Archer Library, University of Regina, Regina; representing the archives community.

Michael Shires, Collection Development Librarian, University of Regina, Regina; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Association.

Provincial Library

Joylene Campbell (until June, 2011), Provincial Librarian, Regina.

Brett Waytuck (beginning June, 2011), Provincial Librarian, Regina.

Key Results 2011-2012

There were three board meetings in the reporting year, as well as an annual general meeting with stakeholders for the Multitype Database Licensing Program (MDLP). Multitype program committees, including the MDLP Committee and the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance, a working group established by the Board to facilitate the development of digitization in the province, met multiple times throughout the reporting year.

The Board's priorities for 2011-2012 were guided by the strategic directions, goals and objectives of the Multitype Library Board Strategic Plan that identified areas where the Board would direct its energy. The objectives are specific result statements that support the goals. The key results articulate accomplishments made during the reporting year.

Strategic Direction 1 – Engage Strategic Partners in the Continuing Development of the Multitype Library System

The multitype library system is well established and much progress has been made in addressing the challenges set out in previous strategic plans. The relationships that form a healthy multitype library system require continuing development of the Board's ongoing programs. The Board's success depends on nurturing relationships with existing and potential partners to address common concerns.

Goal 1 – Enhance current partnerships such as the Multitype Database Licensing Program and the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance.

Objective a) – Research and identify methods to strengthen relationships with Multitype Database Licensing Program partners, other government agencies, the Saskatchewan Library Association, Saskatchewan School Libraries Association and with private sector organizations, to expand programs, and to increase the quality of information for people of Saskatchewan.

Objective b) – Produce recommendations that support Saskatchewan Digital Alliance's efforts in building digitization capacity throughout the province and increasing online access to Saskatchewan's cultural and historical artefacts.

Key Results

- The Saskatchewan Digital Alliance worked with the University Library, University of Saskatchewan, to develop the project proposal and long-term strategic plan for the Saskatchewan Multitype Digitization Initiative (SMDI). The project charter has been reviewed by the Board and the Ministry of Education. The Board expressed its full support to the SMDI and recommended that the Ministry of Education approve the project charter.
- The Multitype Database Licensing Program subscribed to *Library PressDisplay* as a pilot including all partner libraries, with the intention of adding it to the Core Collection. *Library PressDisplay* provides same-day access to over 1,500 newspapers from 92 countries in 48 languages in a full-colour, full-page format. This product provides the same access regardless of where a reader resides in the province. It supports new immigrants who speak those languages by providing much richer news content than they could find on free sites. It also supports equitable access for the print disabled with features such as text-to-audio.
- The MDLP's Supplemental Collection continued to expand with the addition of World Book Encyclopedia Online and its French counterpart, Découverte, which brings the total number of the supplemental resources to seven.
- In order to determine whether the current product mix in the Core Collection still meets the partners' needs, the Multitype Database Licensing Program undertook a full evaluation of the content, user expectations, and the perceived importance of the Core Collection. Both qualitative and quantitative evaluations were used to help inform the committee's recommendations

on the program's renewal for 2012/13.

Goal 2 – Continue to foster relationships among various information providers.

Objective a) – Work with First Nations and Métis groups to improve access to electronic information resources and library services for their communities.

Objective b) – Adapt programs to include a greater diversity of partners in order to benefit from additional perspectives and interests.

Key Results

- First Nations schools were not originally included in the MDLP province-wide licenses because they are under federal jurisdiction. After continued negotiations with database vendors, all MDLP resources are now available to First Nations schools. This is a significant development in providing equitable access to learning resources for First Nations students.
- Two more special libraries joined the MDLP and contributed to the Core Collection. The total number of partners participating in the MDLP increased to thirty seven.
- The Saskatchewan Digital Alliance completed the second phase of the "Saskatchewan War Experience" digitization project. This project attracted 18 partners who contributed content, including libraries, archives, and local culture organizations. The project also provided on-site training in scanning and metadata practises, where needed, to improve the digitization capacity of participating partners.
- On the recommendation of the Board, the Provincial Library and Literacy Office provided a grant to the University of Regina Archives to support the *Saskatchewan's Visual Arts* project. The project involves the University of Regina Archives and other contributing institutions, such as the Regina Leader-Post historical library and the MacKenzie Art Gallery. The aim is to digitize materials that tell the story of Saskatchewan's rich legacy in the visual arts.

Goal 3 – Create a sustainable environment for Saskatchewan libraries.

Objective a) – Inform interested organizations about current and proposed plans to attract professional librarians to Saskatchewan and to encourage a more representative workforce.

Objective b) – Support efforts to establish library student bursaries and other programs to develop the library workforce.

Key Results

- The Board supported the continuation of the Saskatchewan Libraries Education Bursary. This bursary was established through a partnership between the Saskatchewan Provincial Library and Literacy Office, Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, the Multitype Library Board and the Saskatchewan Library Association to promote the continued growth of professional librarianship in the province. The annual bursary awards $5,000 to a student enrolled in a Master of Library and Information Science program who agrees to return to work in Saskatchewan upon completion of their degree.
- At the request of the SIAST Library and Information Technology Advisory Committee, the Board chose a representative to sit on that committee. This board member, along with the rest of the committee, provides recommendations on course content for the Library and Information Technology Program. This work is vital to help ensure that graduates possess the knowledge and skills sought by the various library sectors.

Strategic Direction 2 – Identify Opportunities for Co-operation in Order to Address Emerging Issues

The Multitype Library Board is committed to facilitating increased communication among information providers in Saskatchewan and creating an environment where stakeholders are better able to communicate with the Board.

The Board intends to assume a leadership role in addressing matters that concern multiple sectors and will work with stakeholders to determine which issues are priorities.

Goal 1 – Enhance the ability of Saskatchewan libraries to address emerging issues.

Objective a) – Discuss topics of interest identified by individual sectors to determine if a multitype approach could benefit multiple sectors.

Objective b) – Gather information and data to help inform policy recommendations on issues such as creating a more representative workforce.

Key Results

- The Board met with the Saskatchewan Publishers Group to share information and ideas on Saskatchewan e-book development, and to explore potential collaboration between libraries and publishers. The Board and the Saskatchewan Publishers Group agreed to work together to identify methods for easily locating Saskatchewan books during the library acquisition process. A small working group was established to identify a strategy, process and timeline for this project.
- The Board sponsored a session at the 2011 Saskatchewan Libraries Conference. This session, *Publishing in a Digital Age*, was presented by Mr. Scott Douglas who discussed the planning and implementing process for digital publishing and explored some of the technologies in the digital environment a writer needs to understand.

Goal 2 – Use web technologies to foster the exchange of ideas among information professionals in Saskatchewan.

Objective a) – Create a digital presence for partners to post ideas, solicit advice and discuss partnerships with other information providers.

Objective b) - Continue to improve the Board's web presence, including the Saskatchewan Libraries website.

Key Results

- The Saskatchewan Libraries website is continuously improved and updated and has been more navigable since the new content management system was implemented. The webmaster provided librarians at Provincial Library and Literacy Office with training on the content management system so they can update sections of the site related to their areas of responsibility. The website was originally designed for use by library staff and trustees to locate library resources and staff tools, however, the public also use it to identify library information and services and unique digitized collections in Saskatchewan.
- The archives of Peter Griffiths' Counselling Columns, a very popular section of the Saskatchewan Libraries website, was copied to the provincial public library catalogue to make it more accessible to stakeholders and the public by appearing in catalogue searches.
- The Board approved an outline for re-designing the My Library website. The updated site, when completed, is intended to provide aggregated information on province-wide library programs and services for the public that is currently hosted on the Saskatchewan Libraries website.

Goal 3 – Initiate dialogue among the various library sectors regarding their roles in providing consistent information services throughout a patron's lifetime.

Objective a) – Hold a topical forum or use the Board's Annual General Meeting to begin a consultation process on "smooth transitions" (moving from one type of information provider to another throughout a patron's lifetime).

Key Results

- The Board held discussions among multitype partners at its Annual General Meeting to identify issues and content for its new discussion paper, which will inform and promote the multitype library system, the added value of libraries, and the support libraries provide to people in the community. It also sought input from partners on methods of promoting the value added services provided by libraries, addressing common issues and exploring future areas of collaboration. The discussion paper is intended to demonstrate the Board's leadership and common approaches by all types of libraries to provide consistent library resources and services across a patron's lifetime.
- The Board sent one of its members to attend two forums hosted by Library and Archives Canada. These discussions were held to initiate a Pan-Canadian network for collecting and preserving Canada's documentary heritage. The Board has expressed its interest in participating in several of the proposed initiatives; especially those focused on the appraisal, preservation of, and access to Canada's documentary heritage resources in digital form. It remains too early to determine how involved the Board will be and discussions will continue after more information is received from Library and Archives Canada.

Strategic Direction 3 – Initiate Mechanisms for Co-operation

The Multitype Library Board facilitates, supports and promotes cross-sector co-operation among libraries and other information providers. The Board endeavours to create an environment where innovative approaches to emerging issues will be found by leveraging technological solutions and by developing policy options that respect the needs communicated by all stakeholders.

Goal 1 – Enhance existing Board programs and facilitate the development of new programs.

Objective a) – Share information about the benefits of Board programs with potential partners.

Objective b) – Where the need for a new program has been identified, the Board will gather input from stakeholders, provide policy recommendations to the Ministry of Education and establish a working group or committee if necessary.

Key Results

- The Multitype Database Licensing Program was enhanced as follows:
  - An evaluation of the program was conducted. It covered the content, the user expectations, and the perceived importance of the Core Collection, using both qualitative and quantitative methods. The evaluation aimed to determine the value of individual products in the Core Collection to participating libraries and their users. The evaluation results helped the committee decide to recommend that the MDLP move three products from the Core Collection to the Supplemental Collection and update the MDLP policy to guide the process.
  - With help from the Saskatchewan Information & Library Services Consortium (SILS), MDLP products are now searchable through the public library catalogue. The newly-implemented Research Pro module enables users to search library catalogues and databases simultaneously. This new module could improve discovery and increase the use of electronic information resources in libraries.
  - Two additional licenses for EZproxy were purchased. EZProxy is an authentication application that enables remote access to licensed electronic resources. These

two licenses will be used for libraries that are not able to afford remote access otherwise and need support.

- The Board and the SDA continued to promote co-operation among libraries, archives and other information providers with the goal of improved access to Saskatchewan's digital collections for students, public library users, First Nations and Métis communities and researchers. The SMDI is building a large repository for new digitized collections, and creating a central search portal for searching digital collections, including some housed outside of this repository, using the Open Archive Initiative Protocols for Metadata Harvesting.

Goal 2 – Establish partnerships with interested parties to address human resource issues in libraries.

Objective a) – Continue developing a representative workforce strategy. Support initiatives by the Saskatchewan Library Association and others working in parallel on this issue.

Objective b) – Encourage the development of a Saskatchewan-based Master of Library and Information Science/Master of Information Science program (MLIS) that includes training for teacher librarians.

Objective c) – Work with post-secondary institutions that may be interested in providing online librarian and library technician courses.

Objective d) – Work with stakeholders to develop an internship/co-op student program.

Key Results

- The Board has established a subcommittee to work with Canadian library schools to design a local approach for Saskatchewan students who are willing to enrol in an online MLIS education program.
- The subcommittee had conversations with several Canadian library schools to inquire about their proposed online programs over the past year. The board sent a letter to the University of Alberta's School of Library and Information Studies in appreciation of their efforts in designing a new program to meet the needs of prairie libraries and prospective students, as well as to express the Board's interest in continued discussions.

Goal 3 – Further develop the online presence of Saskatchewan libraries through the creation of a digital commons.

Objective a) – Support stakeholders' efforts to aggregate Saskatchewan's digital resources and digital heritage.

Objective b) – Develop a digital space to share information about training, online tutorials, promotion and careers.

Key Results

- The Saskatchewan Multitype Digitization Initiative completed the installation of Islandora, an open source digital asset management system that was developed by the Robertson Library, University of Prince Edward Island. Two collections have been copied to Islandora to test its structure and modules for further development of the digital repository and the search portal. It will become a portal for the discovery of resources digitized through the initiative.
- The Saskatchewan Digital Alliance moved its website to the government IT data center, which makes the site more sustainable. Links to current and previous digitization projects benefiting from Ministry of Education grants were added to the site to ensure that users are able to discover and access these resources made freely available to the public. Digitization tutorials and workshop handouts on digitization process are also available on this site.

Multitype Database Licensing Program

Background

The Multitype Database Licensing Program (MDLP) is a province-wide program in which libraries work together to purchase access to electronic information resources. With the MDLP, library patrons across Saskatchewan can access a variety of online journals, newspapers, reference books, and other resources. These resources are also accessible from a user's home computer, and the program, therefore, effectively extends access to all Saskatchewan residents, including those living in small urban, rural, and remote areas. Through the MDLP, libraries are helping to close the digital divide, and are working to ensure that all citizens have access to quality information that is so important for education, work, and leisure in a global, knowledge-based economy.

In 2011, program participants included: all ten public library systems, all K-12 schools through the support of the Ministry of Education, the two university library systems, libraries on the four campuses of SIAST, four small college libraries, 17 special libraries, and Provincial Library and Literacy Office (PLLO). PLLO takes responsibility for the administration and coordination of the program.

The program itself continues to grow. The MDLP now provides full-text access to over 12,895 unique titles and began purchasing eBooks in 2006 to enhance the collection. The MDLP currently has 83 titles in its eBook Collection.

This year, Saskatchewan library users performed 1.975 million searches, a 12% increase compared with 2010. This represents over 5,400 searches per day. Users accessed the magazine, journal, newspaper, eBook, and reference databases 715,379 times, a slight decrease compared with last year. Although there were fluctuations year to year, the figures for both sessions and searches are consistent when viewed over a time period of a few years.

Financially, the MDLP program continued its stability in terms of cost and efficiency. The total cost of the program's Core Collection was $626,220.68, with an additional expenditure of $10,000 for the Core Evaluation contract. Again, this year, the exchange rate was relatively favourable at the time of processing, but the contributions from the partners still resulted in a shortfall of approximately $16,500, which was paid from available uncommitted funds. The 12% increase in search resulted in personal per- search cost reduction to thirty-one and half cents. The per-session cost slightly increased to eighty-one and a half cents. In addition to the Core and Supplemental Collections, the MDLP continued to add open access resources to the collection. The partners now have access to an additional 106,226 eBooks, and 31,737 journals through the Program's Serials Solutions A-to-Z list.

Highlights of 2011

1. Supplemental Collection

The Supplemental Collection continued to expand in 2011 with the addition of World Book Encyclopedia and its French counterpart, Découverte. This now brings the total number of supplemental resources to seven, supplied by five different vendors.

The MDLP policy on the Supplemental Collection is to negotiate licenses when libraries from at least two sectors are willing to participate, but it may be extended to a single sector purchase when resources are available. The priority for providing this service, however, will always be given to multi-sector licenses. However, negotiations for single- sector partners typically lead to multi-sector or provincial licenses, to the benefit of the program as a whole. This happened twice in 2011 with the renewals of *Universalis Junior* sponsored by the school sector and of *Small Engine Repair Reference Center* sponsored by the public libraries.

The contributions collected for the Supplemental Collection totalled $34,819.17. This figure represents funds collected for four of the six resources because *LibGuides* and *Universalis Junior* invoiced the partners directly.

2. Library PressDisplay Pilot

Based on a strong expression of interest, the MDLP partners initiated a pilot beginning July 2011 and ending June 2012 to access *Library PressDisplay*. *Library PressDisplay* provides access to over 1,800 newspapers from 92 countries in 48 languages in a full-colour, full-page format.

The pilot consisted of three accounts sharing 50 simultaneous users. To date, the highest number of simultaneous users in all accounts combined was 39. This database was very well-received by partner libraries and their patrons in every sector. It has increased the capacity of partner libraries to support existing direct service programs and enabled new initiatives by providing province-wide access to world news and services in a multilingual and multicultural environment. Providing access to foreign language newspapers through local libraries supports the government's immigrant retention strategy. *Library PressDisplay's* text-to-speech capability is also useful for immigrants learning English pronunciation and for the growing population of residents with print disabilities who can gain access without the need for a personal screen reader.

3. MDLP Core Collection Evaluation Report

In October 2011, Provincial Library and Literacy Office contracted *Insightrix Research, Inc.* to conduct an evaluation of the content, user expectations, and perceived importance of the MDLP Core Collection. The research methodology consisted of an online questionnaire for the general public, accessed via links posted on partner websites and three vendors' search pages between November 17, 2011 and January 2, 2012. There was a second questionnaire aimed at library administrators and staff which was completed between December 2 and December 22, 2011.

Four focus group sessions were conducted as part of the evaluation. Twenty-eight individuals from the general public, including ten high school students participated in the focus groups. There were three online sessions including people from around the province and one in-person session conducted in Saskatoon.

Using "convenience sampling" methodology and designed for a relatively small sample size (277 library patrons from the online questionnaire, 131 library staff members, and 28 focus group participants), valuable information was derived, and a useful tool for Core Collection evaluation was submitted. It will help the program to design appropriate evaluation methods in the future.

Strategic Initiatives for 2012

The MDLP Committee recommended the following initiatives for 2012:

1. Training and Promotion

Training initiatives will expand to increase the visibility of the program's resources. New promotions will bring attention to the electronic resources available and illustrate the valuable content they provide. Feedback received from the *Core Collection Evaluation Report* indicated that staff would be interested in additional training and additional exposure to the electronic resources.

The MDLP will evaluate different training methods and tools such as developing a manual to be distributed to each partner's branch, where needed. Partners have identified that the public library and the K-12 schools continue to be two sectors that need more exposure to the databases. Online training, in addition to the physical manual, may be a method that could reach more people and reduce costs.

2. Continued Addition of Open Access Resources

The Committee will continue to research open access resources, identify ways to remove access barriers and encourage all partner libraries to provide the resources to users. The 2010 additions to the Serials Solutions platform began that process. Next the Committee will explore ways to identify and present resources that may be of interest to other partners, in order to determine which

resources to list (there are literally thousands available). The Committee will also explore means of including these resources within an access portal so partners and patrons do not need to re-enter queries multiple times. This approach would effectively extend the range of the MDLP to include free electronic resources and enhance the current MDLP collection.

Financial Contributors

Post-Secondary Education Libraries

- Bethany College Library
- Briercrest Family of Schools, Archibald Library
- Gabriel Dumont Institute Library
- Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, SIAST Libraries
- St. Peter's Abbey and College Library
- University of Regina, Dr. John Archer Library
- University of Saskatchewan Library

Public Libraries

- Chinook Regional Library
- Lakeland Library Region
- Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System
- Palliser Regional Library
- Parkland Regional Library
- Regina Public Library
- Saskatoon Public Library
- Southeast Regional Library
- Wapiti Regional Library
- Wheatland Regional Library

Special Libraries

- Law Society of Saskatchewan, Library
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Environment, Technical Resources
- Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations Library
- Ministry of Health, Strategy and Innovation
- Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety Library
- Ministry of Social Services, Strategic Policy
- POS Pilot Plant Corporation, Information Services
- Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute Library
- Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, Health Sciences Library
- Resource Centre for Sport, Culture and Recreation
- Saskatchewan Health Information Resources Partnership
- Saskatchewan Legislative Library
- Saskatchewan Research Council, Information Services
- Saskatchewan Teacher's Federation, Stewart Resource Centre
- Saskatoon Health Region
- SaskCentral

School Libraries

- All school divisions through the Ministry of Education, on behalf of all K-12 school libraries in Saskatchewan

Provincial Library and Literacy Office

Core Collection Products Licensed in 2010/11 – Listed by Vendor

CEDROM-SNi

Eureka.cc for Public Libraries, K-12 Schools, and Academic Libraries

Newscan.com for Special Libraries

EBSCO

Auto Repair Reference Center

Novelist

Novelist K-8

Seven eBook titles (originally from NetLibrary)

Encyclopedia Britannica Inc.

Encyclopaedia Britannica Online

Grey House Canada

Canada Info Desk includes:

- Associations Canada
- Canadian Almanac & Directory
- Canadian Environmental Directory
- Canadian Parliamentary Guide
- Directory of Libraries in Canada
- Financial Services Canada
- Government Canada
- History of Canada

ProQuest

Canadian Newsstand Major Dailies and Prairies

Canadian Research Index

CBCA (includes CBCA Business, Current Events, Education, and Reference)

Library PressDisplay (pilot project)

Serials Solutions

E-Journal Portal

Services documentaires multimedia

Repère

Thomson Carswell

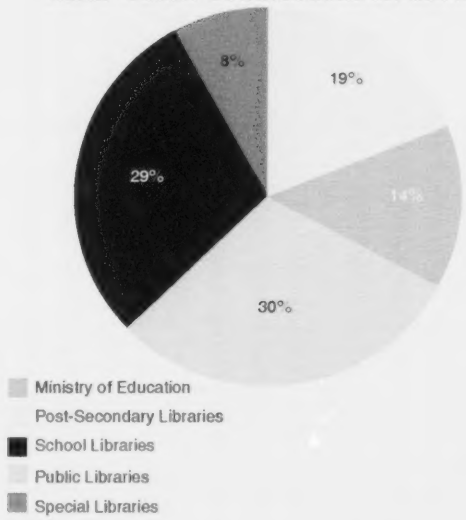
Index to Canadian Legal Literature

MyiLibrary

Six eBook titles

Partner Contributions to the Core Collection

MDLP Sector Contributions for 2011/12



Supplemental Collection Products Licensed in 2011/12 – Listed by Vendor

ALA Publishing

RDA ToolKit

EBSCO

Small Engine Repair Reference Center

Encyclopedia Britannica Inc.

Universalis Junior

Natural Standard

Natural Standard

Springshare

LibGuides/CampusGuides

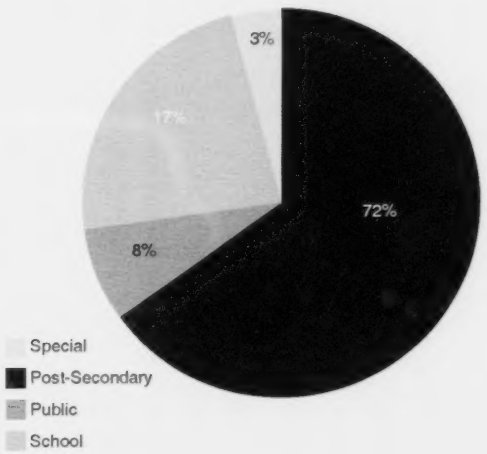
Usage Statistics

Access means the number of times a user entered, or logged on to one of the databases/ interfaces to begin searching.

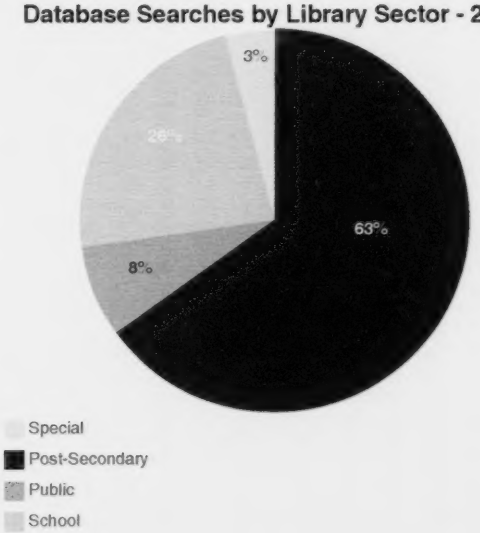
Browse means selecting and following specific links in a directory or pages to retrieve information.

Search means a specific query submitted through a search form to one database. If several databases are selected within a single search interface, each database counts one search.

Total Number of Accesses and Searches in All Databases



Database Searches by Library Sector - 2011



Total Number of Accesses and Searches in All Databases						
	Access			Search		
	2010	2011	Change	2010	2011	Change
Gale	348,307	227,318	-34.7%	528,794	610,591	15.5%
ProQuest	403,076	461,505	14.5%	1,140,916	1,181,591	3.6%
EBSCO	12,677	23,282	83.7%	41,533	51,133	23.1%
Britannica Online				43,877	128,870	193.7%
Index to Canadian Legal Literature (No. of Transactions)				469	918	95.7%
Grey House Canada	2,259	2,211	-2.1%	2,492	2,019	-19%
CEDROM	1439	603	-62.8%	1895	660	-67.8%
SDM	427	460	7.7%			
Total	**768,185**	**715,379**	**-6.9%**	**1,759,976**	**1,975,782**	**12.3%**

Total Usage of Serials Solutions

	2010		2011		Percent Change	
	In Library Use	Remote Access	In Library Use	Remote Access	In Library Use	Remote Access
Search	6,212	1,610	11,225	1,915	80.7%	19%
Browse	162	146	257	142	58.6%	-2.7%